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(12) United States Patent Petty

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(54) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ELECTRICALLY COUPLING DIGITAL DEVICES

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **455/572**; 455/550.1; 455/556.1; 455/571; 455/557; 455/343.1; 455/343.6; 307/43; 307/46; 375/220; 375/222

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(57) ABSTRACT

Apparatus for electrically coupling a first digital device (408) and a second digital device (406) includes an interface circuit at the first digital device coupled at an interface node (230) to the second digital device. The interface circuit is configured to provide a first device supply voltage (Vcc2) to the interface node until a second device supply voltage (Vcc) at the interface node exceeds the first voltage. A data circuit (220) at the first digital device is coupled to the interface node. The data circuit is responsive to voltage on the interface node for providing digital logic signals at appropriate voltage levels to the second digital device.

9 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

